

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claim 1 (original). Apparatus for assembling parts, said apparatus comprising:

an assembly member including at least one pocket;

means for moving said assembly member into a plurality of positions corresponding to a plurality of assembly stations of said apparatus;

means for inserting a first part in a first direction into said at least one pocket at a first of said assembly stations;

means for connecting a second part to a first part at a second of said assembly stations;
and

discharge means for discharging at least a first part from said at least one pocket in a direction substantially opposite said first direction at a third of said assembly stations.

Claim 2 (original). The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said assembly member comprises a plurality of pockets.

Claim 3 (original). The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said assembly member comprises a rotatable wheel and said means for moving said assembly member comprises means for rotating said wheel.

Claim 4 (original). The apparatus of claim 3 wherein said means for rotating said wheel comprise a servo motor.

Claim 5 (original). The apparatus of claim 3 wherein said wheel is generally vertically disposed and has a substantially horizontal axis of rotation.

Claim 6 (original). The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said discharge means comprise first means for discharging a properly connected first and second part from said at least one pocket.

Claim 7 (original). The apparatus of claim 6 wherein said discharge means further comprise second means for discharging either a first part or an improperly connected first and second part from said at least one pocket.

Claim 8 (original). The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said discharge means comprise means for directing a pulse of pressurized air toward a first part received in said at least one pocket.

Claim 9 (original). The apparatus of claim 1 further comprising means disposed between said first and second assembly stations for determining whether a first part is properly inserted in said at least one pocket.

Claim 10 (original). The apparatus of claim 1 further comprising means disposed between said second and third assembly stations for determining whether a second part is properly connected to a first part.

Claim 11 (original). The apparatus of claim 1 further comprising means disposed between said third assembly station and said first assembly station for determining whether a first part has been discharged from said at least one pocket.

Claim 12 (original). The apparatus of claim 1 further comprising means for urging a first part into seating contact with said at least one pocket as said assembly member moves between said assembly stations.

Claims 13-45 (canceled)